

**FY 2000 Subsistence Fisheries Project Narrative  
Project #27**

**Project Title:** Extend the Current Goodnews River Salmon Escapement Monitoring

**Investigator Organizations:** ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division

**Geographic Area:** Kuskokwim Area

**Information Type:** Stock Status and Trends

**Issue Addressed:** Current monitoring efforts of valuable subsistence fishery resources are inadequate. The project currently is not funded to operate through coho salmon spawning run. Crew size limits the effectiveness of collecting biological information from chinook salmon, Dolly Varden and whitefish, and from the subsistence and commercial fisheries. Management of Goodnews River subsistence fish stocks could be significantly improved through OSM support in a cooperative effort with ADFG and the Native Village of Goodnews Bay.

**Study Objectives:**

1. Estimate coho salmon escapement for three years in the middle fork Goodnews River.

**Project Description:** A floating weir has been operated on the Middle Fork Goodnews River since 1997 through a cooperative effort of the USFWS, ADFG, and the Native Village of Goodnews Bay. Coho escapement monitoring has occurred during 1997, 1998 and 1999. For 2000, the project is only funded through the chinook, sockeye and chum salmon runs. This proposal will fund the ADFG crew (2-technicians) and operation for an additional 8 weeks to monitor coho salmon escapement.

**Consultations Completed / Potential for Capacity Building:** Consultation and annual agreements have been ongoing since 1996 with ADF&G, Traditional Council of Goodnews Bay, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, and Togiak NWR. During the past two seasons high school students from Goodnews Bay rotated into the weir crew and received training on the project operation.

**Deliverables / Products:** Escapement estimates will be available for all species migrating up the middle fork Goodnews River from June to the end of September. Daily communication of escapement numbers will occur between project staff and ADFG Commercial Fisheries Office in Bethel. A final project report will be written by ADFG Biologist. Long term monitoring will allow for better in-season management decisions in the future.

**Costs:**

Annual Budget Summary	ADF&G	Totals
FY 2000	\$25.0 K	\$25.0 K
FY 2001	\$25.0 K	\$25.0 K
FY 2002	\$25.0 K	\$25.0 K
Total	\$ 75.0 K	\$ 75.0 K